



Maryland & Delaware

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

CW22-08

09/02/2008

Welcome rainfall for some areas, more needed

Abnormally dry conditions persisted in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Other areas of Maryland received much needed rainfall late in the week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 7 in Delaware and 5.9 in Maryland for the week ending August 31, 2008. Last Friday brought much needed rainfall to areas in Western, Central, and Southern Maryland. Localized rainfall accumulations ranged from 0.5 to 0.7 inches. This helped to restore topsoil moisture in those areas. Soil moisture was rated very short to short in Delaware and short to adequate in Maryland. Pasture conditions were rated very poor to fair in Delaware but fair to good in Maryland.

Hay harvest progressed in both states with many fields working on the fourth cutting. Hay supplies were rated mostly adequate. The corn crop was maturing well with 42 percent of the crop in Delaware and 40 percent in Maryland considered mature. Some harvesting of field corn has begun. Soybeans in Maryland have responded to the rain received late last week and quality remains mostly fair to good. However, Delaware soybeans were still suffering from lack of rainfall and quality was poor to fair. Some areas report that non-irrigated soybeans appear to be dying in spots and it may be too late for rain to benefit the crop.

Vegetable harvest has passed peak and is continuing steadily. Harvest of the summer potato crop was nearly complete. The apple harvest continued with excellent quality reported. Peaches were over 80 percent harvested.

CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2008

| Item | Maryland | | | | Delaware | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|------|------|---------|----------|------|------|---------|
| | This | Last | Last | 5 Year | This | Last | Last | 5 Year |
| | Week | Week | Year | Average | Week | Week | Year | Average |
| Alfalfa Hay, 3 rd cutting | 97 | 95 | 93 | 86 | 91 | 88 | 100 | 89 |
| Alfalfa Hay, 4 th cutting | 31 | 18 | 41 | 30 | 18 | 10 | 26 | 23 |
| Apples, harvested | 44 | 36 | 46 | 36 | 15 | 15 | 30 | 23 |
| Cantaloups, harvested | 86 | 82 | 86 | 83 | 88 | 78 | 80 | 81 |
| Corn, dent | 69 | 54 | 75 | 64 | 85 | 54 | 87 | 72 |
| Corn, mature | 37 | 8 | 23 | 24 | 42 | 17 | 48 | 37 |
| Corn, harvested for grain | 15 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| Corn, harvested for silage | 15 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 25 |
| Cucumbers, harvested | 88 | 80 | 84 | 78 | 82 | 73 | 72 | 76 |
| Lima Beans, harvested | 57 | 54 | 50 | 57 | 38 | 29 | 33 | 40 |
| Other Hay, 3 rd cutting | 69 | 56 | 44 | 48 | 51 | 48 | 60 | 64 |
| Other Hay, 4 th cutting | 7 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Peaches, harvested | 85 | 66 | 89 | 89 | 86 | 76 | 93 | 90 |
| Potatoes, harvested | 99 | 91 | 94 | 83 | 93 | 77 | 64 | 73 |
| Snap Beans, harvested | 87 | 86 | 84 | 87 | 80 | 80 | 89 | 91 |
| Soybeans, setting pods | 77 | 67 | 83 | 78 | 83 | 68 | 80 | 82 |
| Soybeans, turning color | 17 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 11 | 11 | 18 | 7 |
| Soybeans, dropping leaves | 10 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 4 |
| Sweet Corn, harvested | 84 | 79 | 91 | 90 | 82 | 78 | 90 | 83 |
| Tomatoes, harvested | 73 | 67 | 79 | 76 | 75 | 61 | 82 | 73 |
| Watermelons, harvested | 91 | 73 | 87 | 81 | 87 | 80 | 84 | 81 |

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2008

| Item | Maryland | | | | | Delaware | | | | |
|----------|----------|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|
| | VP | P | F | G | EX | VP | P | F | G | EX |
| | Percent | | | | | Percent | | | | |
| Apples | 0 | 1 | 19 | 77 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 68 | 9 |
| Corn | 7 | 16 | 35 | 33 | 9 | 6 | 21 | 46 | 18 | 9 |
| Pasture | 14 | 19 | 35 | 26 | 6 | 48 | 32 | 14 | 5 | 1 |
| Soybeans | 18 | 22 | 20 | 36 | 4 | 8 | 31 | 43 | 14 | 4 |

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2008

| Maryland | | | | | Delaware | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Condition by Percent | Topsoil Moisture | | Subsoil Moisture | | Topsoil Moisture | | Subsoil Moisture | |
| | This | Last | This | Last | This | Last | This | Last |
| | Week | Week | Week | Week | Week | Week | Week | Week |
| Very Short | 21 | 34 | 23 | 25 | 85 | 80 | 80 | 56 |
| Short | 44 | 39 | 39 | 37 | 13 | 35 | 17 | 38 |
| Adequate | 35 | 27 | 38 | 38 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| Surplus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2008

| Station | Precipitation ^{1/} | | | Temperatures | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|-----|---------|--------|
| | | Since Jan 1 | | | | | |
| | Total | | Depart | | | | Depart |
| | this | | From | | | | from |
| | Week | Total | Normal | High | Low | Average | Normal |
| Maryland | | | | | | | |
| Baltimore/Washington AP | 0.88 | 30.67 | 2.91 | 88 | 55 | 73 | -1 |
| Frederick | 1.40 | 32.81 | 6.35 | 87 | 57 | 70 | 2 |
| Frostburg | 2.98 | 37.33 | 4.28 | 85 | 54 | 64 | -2 |
| Hagerstown | 0.87 | 23.42 | -2.79 | 88 | 57 | 71 | 0 |
| Mechanicsville | 0.57 | 31.38 | 0.57 | 88 | 60 | 72 | -1 |
| Patuxent River | 0.63 | 30.54 | 1.84 | 89 | 65 | 75 | 3 |
| Ocean City | 0.08 | 24.56 | -6.92 | 90 | 56 | 76 | 4 |
| Salisbury | 0.76 | 27.80 | -3.74 | 90 | 48 | 74 | 1 |
| Sharpsburg | 1.08 | 31.74 | 5.18 | 89 | 54 | 70 | 2 |
| Stevensville | 0.20 | 35.68 | 6.93 | 87 | 58 | 72 | -2 |
| Washington, DC (Reagan National) | 0.67 | 33.53 | 7.35 | 92 | 68 | 77 | 2 |
| Delaware | | | | | | | |
| Dover | 0.34 | 23.06 | -6.95 | 89 | 55 | 73 | -1 |
| Georgetown | 0.18 | 19.19 | -11.43 | 93 | 54 | 76 | 4 |
| Wilmington | 0.06 | 25.52 | -2.37 | 87 | 57 | 73 | 1 |

^{1/}Precipitation totals as of 7 A.M. on recorded date.
Weather data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.

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